UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CONF.84/PC/13
27 April 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Second session
10-21 May 1993
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Report of the Third African Population Conference, Dakar, Senegal, 11-12 December 1992

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1991/93 of 26 July 1991, invited the regional commissions to convene meetings or conferences to review experience gained in population policies and programmes in their regions as part of their contribution to the preparatory activities for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development.

2. Annexed to the present document in the languages of submission only is the report of the Third African Population Conference, held at Dakar, Senegal, on 11 and 12 December 1992. The Conference was organized jointly by Economic Commission for Africa, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Population Fund. The report includes the Dakar/Ngor Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development.

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* E/CONF.84/PC/3/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Report of the Third African Population Conference, held at Dakar, Senegal, on 11 and 12 December 1992*

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* Circulated in the languages of submission only.

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The third African Population Conference was held in Dakar, Senegal, on 11 and 12 December 1992. The opening session was presided over by Mr. Famara Ibrahima Sagna, Minister of Economic Affairs, Finance and Planning of the Republic of Senegal. Opening statements were made by Mr. A.M. Dirar, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), 1994, Mr. Layashi Yaker, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), and Mr. Habib Thiam, Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal who formally opened the Conference.

2. The Conference was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Comoros, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. Observers from the following Member States of the United Nations were present: Belgium, Canada, France, the Netherlands, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America. The Holy See was also represented by an observer.

4. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Secretariat, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FA0), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS-HABITAT), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (UN-ICPD), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and World Food Programme (WFP).

5. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was present.

6. Observers from the following intergovernmental organizations were present: African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), African Development Bank (ADB), Centre d'études et de recherche sur la population pour le développement (CERPOD), Commission indépendante pour la population (CIPED), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS).

7. Observers from the following non-governmental organizations and institutions were also present: Action for Development (ACFODE), African Population Advisory Committee (APAC), Centre for African Family Studies (CAFS), CARE International, Centre francais sur la population et le développement (CEPED), Centre international de formation et de recherche en population et développement en association avec les Nations Unies (CIDEP), Committee for International Co-operation in National Research in Demography (CICRED), Environnement et développement du tiers-monde (ENDA), Family Planning Private Sector (FPPS), Futures Group, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), Japanese Organization for International Co-operation in Family Planning (JOICFP), Office de la recherche scientifique et technique (ORSTOM), Population Crisis Committee, the Population Council, Population Reference Bureau, Rockefeller Foundation, Université de Kinshasa, Union for African Population Studies (UAPS), World Population Foundation, Worldview International Foundation, Youth for Population Information and Communication (YPIC) Resources for

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Awareness of Population Impacts on Development (RAPID IV) and Population Communications International.

B. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Opening addresses

8. On behalf of His Excellency Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of OAU, Mr. Abdel Rahim M.A. Dirar, Director of the Economic Development and Cooperation Department of OAU, stated that the most important, far-reaching and all-embracing commitment African Governments had entered into was the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community. To date, 21 member States had deposited their instruments of ratification with the OAU secretariat. When the 34 ratifications required for the entry into force of the Treaty are secured, OAU would be transformed from an instrument for African cooperation into an institution for African economic integration. The far-reaching implications of such an historic event had led to reordered priorities in OAU to take into account its new role and responsibility. The priority areas had been identified. They were (a) peace, stability and security; (b) monitoring and encouraging the process of political transition and popular participation; and (c) economic cooperation and integration.

9. Under Chapter XIII of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, entitled Human Resources, Social Affairs, Health and Population, member States undertook to adopt individually and collectively national population policies and take all necessary measures in order to secure a balance between population growth and socio-economic development. Before addressing the complex issues of population and sustainable development however, member States needed to address the issue of the sustainability of African population programmes. The involvement of politicians and policy-makers was vital for that purpose. Not only was sensitization of top-level policy-makers in all sectors a prerequisite for national commitment to population policy, but also the participation of all the national population in the formulation, execution and monitoring of population policy and programmes was key to the success of any national population policy. The time had come to make room for the people to participate in the formulation of national policies. The involvement of women, especially in the formulation of population policies and programmes, had to be treated with all the seriousness and commitment it deserved, given the growing numbers of households where women were wholly responsible for the welfare of the family.

10. He found the interval between African population conferences too long and suggested the possibility of an inter-sessional mechanism to monitor and follow up developments in the field of population and development. Before the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) to be held in Cairo in September 1994, it would behove member States to review the situation and to formulate an African common position that took into account new developments. No serious population policy could be maintained in the absence of measures to address Africa's crushing debt burden and remunerative and equitable prices for Africa's exports. It was high time also for African countries to translate their long-standing commitment for collective self-reliance into concrete policies and programmes. OAU believed in Africa's abilities and potential. Having established the framework for regional integration, African countries must release the creative powers of their people and empower them to take charge of their development and future.

11. Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development, stated that despite all economic hardship, political upheaval and social catastrophe, despite natural disaster and human conflict, Africa had succeeded in maintaining some progress towards development. The countries of the region had fought a long battle to maintain investment in social development thus laying essential foundations for Africa's future. They had worked hard to convince the international community that health and education can only flourish with strong support from the public sector.

12. In spite of all that, rapid rates of population growth had held back development. Consensus was emerging in the region that successful development depended, among other things, on resolving population issues. For their population programmes to succeed. the countries knew that they must:

(a) Provide effective and universal maternal and child health and family planning services as an integral part of reproductive health services;

(b) Educate in particular their girls and young women; and

(c) Strengthen the family as the heart of the community and of the nation.

13. An increasing number of people, especially women, understood that control over fertility was the first step to true autonomy. The challenge now was to provide the means for them to exercise that control. One way would be to afford them access to quality services that took into account the needs and preferences of users. Clinics should be easily accessible and their personnel should treat users with respect and dignity in an environment of privacy and confidentiality. A wide range of safe, effective and affordable contraceptive methods, such information and guidance as will allay user doubts and help them to make an informed choice, should be located within the same facility so that as many user's needs as possible can be met in one place.

14. One of the purposes of the Conference was to establish an agreed framework within which the family could thrive, reflecting its changing structure and the multiple roles of women. The traditional African customs of avoiding early pregnancy and spacing births constitute a source of strength for the family as children and mothers both needed time to gain strength after pregnancy and the stress of delivery. Successfully confronting the AIDS pandemic will be of crucial importance to the future of the family. In that connection, family planning programmes offered a unique opportunity for HIV/AIDS prevention activities. The needs of the family and of national development demanded a re-examination of the role of women. Women have too often been valued only for their role in child-bearing. To fulfil the promise of development in Africa, it would be necessary to bring women into the mainstream of development to ensure that they are part of the policy-making process at the highest level, to ensure that they are part of decision-making at the intermediate levels, and that their contribution at the family level is both acknowledged and encouraged.

15. All that would require understanding and commitment on the part of men, whether as husbands, fathers, political leaders or administrators. Men must appreciate that to keep women on the sidelines is to lose half the family's energy for progress, half the community's power for change, and half the nation's strength to innovate. Men must appreciate that they will gain rather than lose by inviting women to share the decisions of development, as they already shared its burdens. But men must understand that they too had a role to play in the formation and security of the family. Employment and income may be central, but the roles of father and husband also needed to be re-examined in the light of the new realities of Africa's development. Men must be prepared not only to take responsibility for the care and upbringing of their children but to take a direct and personal part in the process. In order to become productive citizens, children needed education, health care and other investments in their future. Fathers were realizing the sound economic reasons for smaller families and must be encouraged and enabled to make considered choices.

16. The draft Dakar/Ngor Declaration represented an important step forward for the region, based as it was on the Kilimanjaro Plan of Action. It recognized the primacy of the family, and puts family considerations firmly in the context of the national and international struggle for sustained and sustainable development. It recommended goals in the areas of infant and maternal mortality and education and also recognized that goals in the areas of fertility, population growth and contraceptive use may now be appropriate. It was vitally necessary to raise the level of contraceptive use in Africa and the means of reaching that goal was important. For successful family planning, four priorities relate to the importance of national

sovereignty: individual choice, particularly for women; integrating family planning information and services with other policies affecting the family; ensuring that population policies become an integral part of the drive for sustainable development; and international cooperation. The goals set out in the draft Declaration could be achieved only if the whole international community made the necessary commitment. The task of the Conference would be to ensure that in practice international assistance for population programmes is raised to 4 per cent of all assistance.

17. At the International Conference on Population and Development, Africa would join the other regional conferences in calling for priority for population programmes, and for integration of population with other development concerns. If at the Cairo Conference in 1994 a programme of action to take the world successfully into the twenty-first century could be adopted, then hopes for Africa's development, as part of an international structure of equity and justice, were bright indeed.

18. Mr. Layashi Yaker, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ECA, paid tribute to the Senegalese authorities and recalled the catalytic role played since 1984 after the Arusha and Mexico City meetings by the United Republic of Tanzania, the country where the KPA had been adopted.

19. This was the third Conference of its kind, coming after the adoption of two instruments, namely the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and Agenda 21 of the Earth Summit. Both constituted essential landmarks in the development of Africa. After describing the unprecedented economic, social and political crisis the region was experiencing in a depressed post-cold war environment accompanied by deep political changes, he stressed the need for pursuing a strategy and effective measures for building a harmonious world of security, stability, economic and social development and peace.

20. In the heady years of independence, African countries had concentrated on nation-building rather than the human dimension of development whereby people would have become the goal of development. A review of the situation with regard to the noble objectives set in international strategies and development plans hardly showed anything positive. Africa was facing complex problems of economic recovery and the quest to strike a balance between population and development was raising many complex issues. To solve them, appropriate population policies needed to be pursued in order to contain population growth, control overly rapid urbanization and promote rural development. The exact measure of population dynamics and distribution had to be taken and the fact kept in mind that excessive population growth diverted indispensable resources from productive uses to meeting needs. Conversely, moderate population growth would make for improved well-being and allow the minimum needs of all family members to be met. The sad fact in Africa was that even this minimum was eluding the people as poverty continued to spread.

21. In cooperation with other United Nations agencies such as UNFPA, ECA had promoted the sharing of ideas and experiences among African countries. However, decisions were not always followed up and thus it would be necessary to devote the required resources to implementation of adopted programmes. Otherwise, they would not be followed through.

22. The Executive Secretary concluded by listing some of the challenges to be met in the current particular situation if the population and other problems facing Africa were to be overcome in order to build a future of peace and social progress for all the people of the continent.

23. In his opening statement, Mr. Habib Thiam, Prime Minister of Senegal, welcomed all participants. The city of Dakar, the Government and people of Senegal were proud to host the third African Population Conference which would work out an African common position on population and sustainable development to be submitted to the ICPD.

24. Despite the adoption of the KPA in 1984, Africa was still facing rapid population growth within a difficult economic environment with the result that the poverty situation had worsened. This was because

of the gap between the perception of population problems and the adoption of such measures as would attenuate the impact of population growth.

25. He added that population and development policies should be mutually reinforcing and take account of individual, family and community needs. The family had been chosen as the central theme of the Conference and the major elements of the family unit remained vulnerable in many respects: morbidity remained high as did the mortality rate and reproductive health, among other factors, remained fragile. If the family was to have the well-being for its many benefits to be appreciated, society would need to improve in all these areas.

26. At a major conference on assistance to the African child recently held in Dakar, population pressure had been identified as a major constraint to child development. By adopting a population policy declaration in 1988, Senegal had instituted a multisectoral and integrated approach to the solution of population and development problems. At a time when African economic integration was becoming increasingly topical, member States should pool their resources and expertise to pursue their population objectives with a view to achieving sustainable development. Adopting a common position on population and sustainable development would be a significant step in that direction.

27. After thanking those institutions and development partners which had contributed to the preparation of the Conference, the Prime Minister wished participants every success in their deliberations.

Election of officers (agenda item 3)

28. The Conference elected the following officers:

Chairman	Senegal
First Vice-Chairman	Kenya
Second Vice-Chairman	Egypt
Rapporteurs	Rwanda
	Namibia

C. AGENDA

Adoption of the agenda and programme of work (agenda item 4)

29. The Conference adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. One minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Election of officers.
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
5. General debate on: Regional population growth and development planning.
6. Consideration of the report and recommendations of the Meeting of Experts on:
   (a) Implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action;

(b) African family in the context of socio-economic development;

(c) Strategies for sustainable development;

(d) Emerging population problems and new orientations and strategies;

(e) Population policies and programmes in Africa;

(f) Progress report on the preparatory activities for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

7. Any other business.

8. Consideration and adoption of the report and resolutions of the Conference.

9. Closure of the Conference.

D. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

General debate: Regional population growth and development planning (agenda item 5)

30. The representative of Zambia stressed the need to take stock of Africa's and individual national commitments to the implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action adopted in 1984. He referred to the changing political and economic situation in many African countries which required a proper vision for the future. Such a vision should have the objective of overcoming various challenges to the prevailing socio-economic obstacles with a view to achieving good health and a better quality of life for the people. He further stressed the need for planning families but noted that there were problems in the area of choice for the individual, the community and government. The problems ranged from sensitive gender issues, attitudes and cultural values to fertility and family planning. Family planning programmes alone would not solve the problems. There was also a need for women and men to be better informed about their options. To that effect, symbolic images properly conveyed in the media would be more productive than lecturing people about contraception. The cooperation of political and religious leaders in family planning would be essential for the success of programmes. A variety of communication channels should be employed. Person-to-person contacts were, in many cases, more effective in changing attitudes and eliciting acceptance of the use of family planning methods.

31. The representative of Guinea-Bissau described the general situation of his country with regard to population whose growth rate had reached 2.3 per cent. Ninety per cent of the people depended on agriculture and made a precarious living. The mortality rate for children under 5 years of age was 246 per thousand and maternal mortality rate as high as 900 per hundred thousand. A mother-and-child-health and family planning programme was being implemented but its impact was still poor. It was to be noted that Guinea-Bissau had not yet adopted a population policy. Nevertheless, a seminar on population and development had been organized in 1990 for public officials and the outcome had been the recommendation for establishing a population affairs unit. Work on that was still in the preparatory phase.

32. In her statement, the representative of the Central African Republic described the major population problems facing her country. These included deteriorating health and educational standards, increasing sterility, low population density, a decreasing work force, the status of women and youth and the influx of refugees. To solve these problems, information, education and communication (IEC) activities which made for impressing on citizens from all walks of life the importance of identifying further with strategies adopted would be required. She also appealed for international cooperation to sustain national efforts. In that regard, she hoped that a multidisciplinary team of UNFPA regional advisers would be deployed to the

Central African subregion as part of the new strategy being pursued by UNFPA. Her country would be prepared to host the team.

33. The representative of Tunisia stated that demographic issues figured high among the development priorities of his country. A bold policy aimed at reducing fertility in Tunisia had been pursued since the early 1960s. The effort had assumed new institutional, legislative and sectoral dimensions and was aimed, among other things, at broadening the concept of family planning to include mother and child health and the protection of such vulnerable groups as women, young people and the elderly. The success of Tunisia's population policy which won the United Nations prize in 1987 had been due to the legislative base instituted more than 30 years ago. For any population policy to stand a chance of success, it must enjoy a stable political and social environment and seek to place a social and cultural value on work.

34. The representative of Egypt recalled the success of his country's population policy and programmes which had led to the decline of its population growth rate from 3 per cent in 1985 to 2.3 per cent in 1991 and birth rate from 40 per thousand to 30 per thousand during the same period. The factors responsible for this achievement included a strong political commitment, the mandate of the National Population Council, chaired by the President himself, IEC programmes, work at the grass-roots level and the line of accountability. He appealed to all participants to make every effort in order to ensure that the scheduled ICPD becomes a success.

35. In her statement, the representative of Mauritania explained that her country was in the process of formulating a national population policy through intensive consultation with various community sectors at all levels. The formulation process would be completed before ICPD. In the meantime, Mauritania had made attempts to implement the KPA despite serious setbacks due to drought and structural adjustment programmes (SAPs). The integration of women in development also enjoyed high priority as exemplified by the creation of a State Secretariat for Women's Affairs in 1992. Budgetary constraints and illiteracy, however, were major obstacles to population activities. She suggested that the Conference should pass a resolution to give basic education high priority in the next decade.

36. The representative of Kenya outlined progress that had been made over the years in increasing contraceptive use, reducing fertility as well as infant mortality rates. There were, however, some problems in implementing the policies. These included the setting of manageable targets and the effects of SAPs. He noted that in some cases SAPs were reversing some of the demographic gains that were being made. Other issues on which concerted efforts were being directed by the Government included gender inequalities, adolescent fertility, AIDS, environment and refugees. Greater assistance was required to complement government efforts. He appreciated the donor support his country had been receiving and appealed for continued donor support. Finally, he informed the meeting of the review and evaluation exercise underway on past experience in Kenya's population policy. The results of the review would be used in preparing the 1994-1998 development plan. The Government of Kenya would support an African common position for the ICPD.

37. The representative of Algeria described the progress achieved by her country in meeting population policy targets in a framework of rising standards of living and high fertility and low mortality, particularly infant mortality which has reached 50 per thousand. The contraceptive prevalence rate had been increased to 40 per cent and fertility had declined from 6.3 in 1981 to 4.7 ten years later. This revealed a change in attitudes and practices. The next step would be to better integrate such demographic concerns as population redistribution with economic and environmental variables. In that respect, the South-South dialogue would constitute a source of fruitful cooperation.

38. The representative of Cameroon indicated the main objectives of that country's population policy. The principle of responsible parenthood meant that people would be conscious of the moral and physical obligations that come with procreation and their implications for child education and development, without

coercion or birth limitation. The national population policy aimed, among other things, at reducing fertility and infant mortality, improving maternal health which included the reduction of sterility where it existed, making sure that the geographical distribution of the population was balanced, controlling urbanization and improving the status of women. Some of the major activities that the Government had undertaken were aimed at raising the level of education for young girls, raising the marriage age and facilitating access to bank credit and ownership of land, promoting legislation for the integration of women in the development process. The persistence of high fertility showed that the strategies being perceived were not enough and needed to be reviewed. In that regard, the socio-economic realities of each country should be taken into account when preparing and implementing projects and programmes aimed at addressing population problems.

39. The representative of Guinea noted that Africa was one rich continent whose people were poor. What was more, the continent was under populated. Population problems were a paradox in this context. On the one hand, the population was being considered as too large given the region's economic capacity and, on the other, too small to have a serious economic impact. African women had always enjoyed a privileged position in traditional society. The point at issue was how to evolve an African approach to dealing with the development problems of the continent.

40. The representative from Nigeria informed the Conference that with a population of about 88.5 million (1991), the Government had set out in 1985 to formulate a national population policy as an integral part of its development plan strategy. An explicit population policy was approved in 1988 and launched in April 1989. A national population programme had subsequently been formulated to implement that policy. The major constraints included the multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious characteristics of the population as well as widespread illiteracy and shortage both of trained manpower and financial resources. With increased provision of needed resources from the 1993 budget and external aid from the World Bank's Agency for International Development, this constraint was being eliminated. Progress towards effective implementation of the policy measures was expected to be on course.

41. The representative of Morocco stated that the national population policy had been implemented in the context of the country's social, economic and cultural situation. Success of the implementation is reflected in the reduction of the population growth rate to no more than 2 per cent, raising of living standards, improved nutrition, reduction of inequalities regarding consumer expenditure and improvement of habitat. Between 1962 and 1992, the infant mortality rate declined from 149 per thousand to 57 per thousand and life expectancy at birth increased from 47 years to more than 65 years. The efforts leading to success had been made in the areas of mother and child protection, physical planning, protection of the environment and a campaign against poverty, generalization of education and illiteracy eradication. He made an appeal for universal access to science and technology.

42. The representative of Malawi indicated that his country was formulating a population and human resources development policy. In order to influence its demographic trends. The policy would respect the absolute rights of individuals and couples to freely decide for themselves the number of their children. His Government had endeavoured to implement the recommendations of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action amid several problems. These included lack of resources and the effects of SAPs which had reduced resources allocated to social sectors such as health, education and employment and had adversely affected the well-being of the family. The increasing influx of refugees has posed an additional population problem. The population policy under formulation will need more financial support for implementation and would involve the public and private sectors, the community and donors.

43. The representative of Namibia informed the Conference that, as a new nation, his country had drawn up a national transitional development plan to provide a framework for intersectoral planning and a basis for creating greater awareness of the population-development interrelationship. The population policy was mainly confronted with two issues of land and labour migration. The rural areas were overpopulated,

overstocked and overgrazed. Labour migration had undermined agricultural development. The development plan, therefore, aimed at establishing modalities for integrating population factors into development planning; family planning within health services; and the formulation of policies to ensure a better distribution of the national population.

44. The representative of the Sudan informed the Conference that his country was undergoing an economic recovery programme in which structural adjustment was linked to social adjustment. Although the problem of the influx of refugees was being contained, that of displaced persons was not, due to internal strife. A National Council for Social Development had consequently been established to promote human and social development in the areas of vocational training for youth, raising the level of adult literacy, improving the health of children, strengthening social security for the elderly and improving the status and role of women in development.

45. The representative of the Gambia informed the Conference that his country was convinced that sustainable development was predicated on the quality of life of the people. His country had accordingly formulated a national population policy in 1991 after consultation with all sectors of the community and their leaders. The National Population Council established had a technical unit responsible for the implementation of the policy. Specific targets had been set to reduce maternal mortality, increase the use of contraceptives, expand IEC programmes with men and adolescents as targets, and increase public awareness on population issues. In conclusion, he stressed the importance of coordinating donor activities as well as subregional and regional cooperation.

46. The representative of Uganda drew the attention of the Conference to the 1989 Amsterdam Meeting on Population and Development which had indicated that substantial financial resources were required to fund population programmes. There was a great shortfall in resources between what was available and the actual needs. Problems of poverty and the prevailing socio-economic crisis made it difficult for most African countries to formulate and implement population policies and programmes. He expressed great concern that Africa was not being given adequate attention compared to other regions. However, African Governments were not doing enough themselves and that situation needed to be corrected. He concluded that if greater resources could be made available to African population policies and programmes, there could be hope for the continent.

47. The representative of Burundi briefly described his country's demographic situation characterized by a growth rate as high as 3 per cent, high population density (207 persons/km^2), the extreme youthfulness of the population (50 per cent being less than 18 years old) and an urbanization rate as low as 10 per cent. The Government had taken action to redress the situation. Among other things, it had launched a national family planning programme and instituted comprehensive policies in the field of health, women in development and family education. An IEC population programme had been launched to elicit the participation of the people and the public authorities in the measures initiated. There were serious difficulties impeding progress. These included political instability which was causing serious problems of refugees and returnees. The Government had established a national committee to address it and assist refugees returning on voluntary basis. To deal with the problems, the Government intended to strengthen its intervention mechanism through the impending establishment of a population planning unit, increase national human resources, improve the geographical coverage of educational and health facilities, promote the involvement of women in the pursuit of development strategies, and establish a social security system as well as a national coordinating council on population.

48. The representative of Rwanda indicated that her Government has a long-standing interest in population because of the country's high population density (285 persons/km^2) and high population growth rate (3.6 per cent). She reported that her country had such institutions as a national population advisory council and a national population office. It had also adopted a declaration on national population policy with the set objectives of reducing the population growth rate from 3 to 2 per cent by the year 2000, reducing the

fertility rate of eight children per woman, increasing the contraceptive prevalence rate and reducing infant mortality. The obstacles impeding the implementation of population policy measures included cultural attitudes relating to tradition and religion, inadequate resources and political instability. The private sector and rural people could play an important role in eliminating these obstacles.

49. The representative of Mauritius indicated that, in her country, the demographic transition could be considered as having been achieved. The birth rate in 1990 had been 1.11 and the national population growth rate which was of the order of 3.1 per cent per year over the period 1952-1962 was now less than one per cent. That success was due to the fact that, since its adoption, population factors had always been integrated in overall development planning. Speedy progress had been made since the transition period began in 1952, particularly in mother and child health, employment mainly of women and with a sharp reduction of the unemployment rate. Having achieved the set demographic targets, the population policy now seeks to secure for all nationals their full human development. The possibility for women and communities to make their voices heard is a decisive factor in sustainable development.

Consideration of the report and recommendations of the Meeting of Experts (agenda item 6)

50. The Chairman presented the report of the Meeting of Experts (annex I) as contained in document E/ECA/POP/APC.3/92/9 for the consideration of the Conference. Discussion took place on the following items:

A. Attendance and organization of work

51. In considering paragraph 7 of the report, the Conference decided that "CIPED" be transferred to paragraph 6, "Euramide Interface (OIM)" be deleted and "Centre international de formation et de recherche en population et développement en association avec les Nations Unies (CIDEP)" be added.

C. Account of proceedings

52. In paragraph 24, the Conference decided to reflect the correct title of the Ministry which is Ministry of Economic Affairs, Finance and Planning.

Implementation of the Kilimanjaro programme: Lessons and prospects (agenda item 4)

53. In paragraph 33, the Conference decided that "new strategies" in the second sentence be deleted and replaced by "specific programmes".

Strategies for sustainable development (agenda item 6)

54. In considering paragraph 43, the Conference decided that item (ii) be deleted and renumbered accordingly.

55. In paragraph 44, the Conference decided that the words "under their structural adjustment programmes" in the last sentence be deleted.

56. In paragraph 46, the Conference decided that the word "writing-off" be replaced by "reconverting".

Emerging population problems and new orientation and strategies (agenda item 7)

57. In paragraph 51, the Conference suggested that the words "and of structural adjustment policies" should be deleted.

58. In paragraph 53, the Conference recommended adding "and migrants" after "refugees" in the first sentence.

59. In paragraph 54, the Conference recommended adding the following sentence at the end of the paragraph: "The meeting recommended that there should be political will to resolve and avoid such problems permanently".

60. In paragraph 55, the words "and pay greater attention to the problems of ageing and the elderly" was amended to read "pay greater attention to the problems of the aged and the disabled".

A review of assessment of population policies in selected African countries [agenda item 8(a)]

61. In paragraph 59, the Conference recommended adding the following sentence at the end of the paragraph: "It is crucial, therefore, that resources are made available and allocated to these sectors".

62. In paragraph 62, it was decided to delete the sentence "Some countries were directing their efforts accordingly in their programmes." The proposed insertion of "to include this issue" turned out to be not applicable.

63. Under thiis agenda item, the observer of the Holy See indicated its continued support for programmes of natural family planning.

United Nations technical and financial assistance to population programmes and related statistical activities in Africa [agenda item 8(b)]

64. In paragraph 74, a new sentence was added at the end of the paragraph to read: "Participants were also concerned that the funding policies of certain donors gave priority to the big countries rather than to the small ones which constituted the majority in Africa. They also proposed that the new restructuring of UNFPA technical assistance should be reviewed to take language barriers into account so as to ensure the continuity of programmes supported by UNFPA and other donors".

65. The secretariat took note of all the amendments proposed and undertook to reflect them in the final version of the report of the Meeting of Experts.

Any other business (agenda item 7)

66. There was no discussion under this agenda item.

Draft Declaration

67. The Conference adopted the draft Declaration (annex II) with amendments as follows:

Principles and objectives

(a) Paragraph (a) should be replaced by: "African countries affirm their solidarity in dealing with population problems and undertake to formulate population policies respecting the sovereign rights of each country along with the freedom, dignity and intrinsic values of their peoples and taking into account the relevant moral and cultural factors, and bear responsibility for reaffirming the rights and obligations of individuals and couples".

(b) The Conference suggested that the following additional paragraph be inserted between subparagraphs (a) and (b) as a new subparagraph (b):

"The successful pursuit of any population policy requires the institution of a stable political and social environment and calls for the elimination of all forms of extremism that breed conflict and instability;".

(c) In paragraph (b), the following words were deleted: "and family strategies".

(d) In paragraph (d) lines 7, 8, 9 and 10 were amended to read: "...the realities of each country should be accelerated simultaneously with sustained economic growth to assure the achievement of long-term objectives of food security, and sustainable development".

Population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development

(e) The Conference made the following amendments: Recommendation 1, line 4, was modified to read: "...regional natural growth rate from 3.0 to 2.5 per cent by the year 2000 and 2 per cent by the year 2010". The representative of Côte d'Ivoire expressed reservation on the indication of specific targets.

(f) In recommendation 4, the following words were deleted "...exports and reduce imports thus fostering...".

Fertility and family planning

(g) In recommendation 9, line 4, the following words were added: "and 40 per cent by the year 2010".

Mortality, morbidity and AIDS

(h) In recommendation 13, the following words were added: "...the spread of AIDS and health problems".

Urbanization, migration and physical planning

(i) Recommendation 17 was reformulated to read: "Considering the importance of migratory flows of the African population within Africa and between Africa and other continents, a common position should be adopted by the countries concerned within the framework of international conventions regarding the adoption of appropriate measures to protect people's rights and guarantee their security".

Refugees and displaced persons

(j) In recommendation 18, line 1 was modified to read: "...to tackle the acute problems of refugees and displaced persons"; and the following words were deleted: "...including those of political or environmental nature".

(k) In recommendation 20, the following words were added: "...in population-oriented development plans and that the policy of voluntary repatriation should be integrated in development plans".

(l) In recommendation 21, line 1, the following words were deleted: "...women and children" to be replaced by "...displaced persons."; line 2, "and the country of origin when they return" to be replaced by "...at the point of their voluntary repatriation".

Women in development

(m) In recommendation 22, the last sentence was modified to read: "Take necessary steps to eliminate discrimination against women, as well as certain traditional and cultural practices and religious extremism which inhibit their effective advancement and participation in development".

Private and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

The Conference made the following amendments:

(n) In recommendation 35, the second sentence was modified to read: "They should also be involved in large-scale replication of successful innovative pilot programmes".

International community

(o) In recommendation 40, the following sentence was added at the end: "establish technical structures to support programmes taking into account problems related to liaison and communication".

Resource mobilization

(p) A new recommendation was added after recommendation 44, which reads as follows:

"We appeal to UNFPA to consider Africa as a priority region and accordingly increase the resources allocated to the development of population policies and programmes".

(q) A new paragraph was then added at the end of the Declaration. It reads:

"We express our profound appreciation to the Government and people of Senegal, especially His Excellency Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, current Chairman both of the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, who has consistently been at the forefront of economic cooperation among African countries and North-South Cooperation. We are most grateful for having had the occasion to hold this historic meeting of our Conference in this beautiful city of Dakar under the most conducive atmosphere of cordiality and warm hospitality."

68. The Conference adopted a draft resolution on population, family and sustainable development (annex III).

Closure of the Conference (agenda item 9)

69. The closing session was chaired by Mr. Djibril Ngom, Minister of State for Economic Affairs, Finance and Planning of Senegal.

70. In his statement, the representative of the secretariat expressed his sincere thanks to all the participants for their positive contributions to the debate which had made it possible to improve the draft Declaration. He also thanked the members of the national preparatory committee of the Conference for their availability and efficiency, and the members of the secretariat for their dedication. He apologized to the participants for the few hitches that occurred during the meeting and wished them all a safe trip back to their respective countries.

71. In her statement, the Executive Director of UNFPA said she was gratified to have participated in the Conference and encouraged all African countries to honour the commitments made in order to achieve the objectives adopted by the conference, particularly in the area of family planning and the status of women.

72. The effectiveness of population policies and programmes did not depend solely on Governments but also on individuals themselves. In that regard, men had a major role to play in the success of population activities.

73. She had taken due note of the wish expressed by participants that UNFPA provide assistance towards the organization of the 1994 Conference.

74. She finally thanked the participants and all those who had contributed to the organization and work of the Conference.

75. In his closing statement, the Minister of State for Economic Affairs, Finance and Planning of Senegal said that his country was happy to have hosted the third African Population Conference. Population variables were of crucial importance in development strategies and the population itself had a decisive role to play in the implementation of population policies. Funding agencies had an irreplaceable role in the promotion of the population policies in Africa. He described the third African Population Conference as an historic event as it marked an important intermediate stage towards the organization of the Cairo International Conference in 1994.

76. Before declaring the Conference closed, the Minister of State appealed to all the participants to ensure that the follow-up committee proposed by the Conference is quickly set up.

77. The representative of Mauritius read out the vote of thanks (annex IV) on behalf of the participants.

Annex I

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF EXPERTS

(As adopted by the third African Population Conference)

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The Meeting of Experts of the third African Population Conference was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 7 to 10 December 1992. The opening session was presided over by Mr. Silvery B. Buberwa, Director, Human Resources Planning Department, Planning Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania, outgoing Chairman of the Conference. Opening statements were made by Mr. A.M. Dirar on behalf of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Mr. J. Singh, on behalf of Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Mr. A. Bahri, on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Mr. Ousmane Diene, who formally opened the meeting on behalf of the Minister of Economic Affairs, Finance and Planning of Senegal.

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Comoros, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. Observers from the following Member States of the United Nations were present: Belgium, Canada, France, the Netherlands, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America. The Holy See was also represented by an observer.

4. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Secretariat, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FA0), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS-HABITAT), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (UN-ICPD), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and World Food Programme (WFP).

5. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was present.

6. Observers from the following intergovernmental organizations were present: African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), African Development Bank (ADB), Centre d'études et de recherche sur la population pour le développement (CERPOD), Commission indépendante pour la population (CIPED), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS).

7. Observers from the following non-governmental organizations and institutions were also present: Action for Development (ACFODE), African Population Advisory Committee (APAC), Centre for African Family Studies (CAFS), CARE International, Centre français sur la population et le développement (CEPED), Centre international de formation et de recherche en population et développement en association avec les Nations Unies, Committee for International Co-operation in National Research in Demography

(CICRED), Family Planning Private Sector (FPPS), Futures Group, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Japanese Organization for International Co-operation in Family Planning (JOICFP), International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), Office de la recherche scientifique et technique (ORSTOM), Population Crisis Committee, the Population Council, Population Reference Bureau, Rockefeller Foundation, Université de Kinshasa, Union for African Population Studies (UAPS), World Population Foundation, Worldview International Foundation, Youth for Population Information and Communication (YPIC), Resources for Awareness of Population Impacts on Development (RAPID IV) and Population Communications International.

B. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Opening addresses

8. On behalf of his organization, Mr. A.M. Dirar, Director of the Economic Development and Cooperation Department of OAU welcomed participants and observers to the meeting. His appreciation went to the Senegalese Government for its generosity in hosting the Conference. He reminded the meeting of its historic task, namely the preparation of Africa's policy, strategy and programme for population and sustainable development in the 1990s and beyond. He went on to highlight the major economic development and population problems facing the continent.

9. On the economic side, he stressed the critical situation African countries were facing as a result of their external debt. Unless a permanent solution was found to the debt problem, no development could take place as debt servicing consumed more than one-third of Africa's export earnings. The economic crisis had been further compounded by the collapse of commodity prices and the stagnation of official development assistance. Also, a number of internal factors including the lack of domestic savings and the dismantling of production structures under adjustment programmes were hampering the economic development of African countries.

10. The representative of OAU then identified a number of problems and constraints facing African countries in the area of population. Africa's population had more than doubled since independence, putting heavy pressure on social institutions and services not to mention having a high dependency ratio. The environmental pressure was particularly severe in the Sahel. For that and other reasons, he felt the need to elevate population issues to the highest level of policy-making in each African country.

11. He also stressed that the third African Population Conference would have to address the need for up-to-date and reliable data on Africa's population and the necessity of designing an African information, education and communication (IEC) policy to provide information to the African people on population and sustainable development. All these would require the full involvement of women in policy formulation and execution at all levels. Finally, he highlighted the role of Africa regional institutions and the international community in supporting Africa's efforts in the field of population and development. OAU stood ready, he said, to assist and support the efforts of member States in that domain.

12. On behalf of UNFPA, Mr. J.S. Singh, Executive Coordinator, International Conference on Population and Development, 1994 stated that the findings of the Conference would be of vital importance for each individual country, for the region as a whole, and for the success of global policies for sustained and sustainable development in the twenty-first century. Population factors were vital determinants of the success of action to promote health, education and the equal status of women; to defeat poverty and promote economic growth; and to protect the environment on which everything else depended. Accordingly, the Conference should reflect on the progress made since the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action was adopted in 1984 and work out how population issues could be squarely placed in the context of sustainable development.

13. As amply demonstrated by those countries that had succeeded in the third world, policies for balancing population with resources for development were an essential component of programmes to promote economic growth and eradicate poverty. Since national experience was reflected at the family level, sustained and sustainable development would have much to do with the integrity of the family unit. Family concerns should be integrated in all development plans, programmes and policies. Specific policies were needed to safeguard the family, and to enable couples to determine their family size according to their wishes and according to the resources available.

14. He suggested that the current Conference should set goals for the subsequent two decades. While increased life expectancy, reduced infant mortality and morbidity and lower maternal mortality were accepted goals, similar objectives in the area of education, particularly for women and girls, as had been adopted by WHO, ECA, UNICEF and UNFPA might be worth considering. Goals in the area of contraceptive prevalence, however, would not be rigid quotas. That these goals should reflect reality as had the International Forum on Population and Development in assuming that the United Nations medium projection for population growth could be reached as fertility declined and further progress was made in spreading the use of modern, safe and effective means of family planning.

15. To meet the rapid increase in demand for family planning, the first requirement was to improve the range and coverage of family planning services. Improving the quality of such care in turn required that the multiple and vital roles of women are recognized and respected among service providers and administrators. That implied the integration of population with other aspects of development services at the community level, and giving population issues their due importance in development planning at the provincial or district level.

16. The representative stated that better information on family planning was needed at all levels and that every effort must be made to ensure that service providers and users were equipped with full and accurate information. It was particularly important for acceptors to be advised correctly about the most appropriate means of family planning, and for a variety of methods to be made available. Given the expectation that deaths from AIDS were unlikely to have a major impact on population growth rates in the foreseeable future, family planning should make a vital contribution to the well-being of all members of the family, even of those already infected with the HIV virus. More and better information and services, particularly the provision and universal use of condoms, would help substantially in preventing the spread of AIDS, and in maintaining the integrity of the family.

17. Rapid population growth was only one of the barriers to speedy development in Africa. Distribution and migration patterns were also of importance, especially the rapid growth of cities which are fast becoming the foci of under-development, while making unsustainable demands on national resources. Policies for balanced urban development were therefore urgently needed. Equally needed were international agreements on migration across national boundaries. The Conference, he suggested, should consider what policies might be appropriate to balance the loss of so many of the region's educated, young and able people. While Africa's burden of refugees had been lightened somewhat by recent moves towards peace and democratic rule in the region, the refugee population remained considerable in some of the world's poorest countries. To this end, the Conference might wish to consider appropriate international policies for relieving the burden.

18. Of central importance was the principle that countries had the sovereign right to determine their population priorities and to develop the means to implement them. On that basis, international and regional groupings had arrived at firm agreement on goals regarding population growth and other issues of importance. In Africa, the economic summit meeting of the OAU in 1991 had agreed that population was a vital component of strategies for economic development. To speed up the process of intergovernmental consultation and render it as complete as possible, he called on countries to establish national committees on

population, with as wide a representation as possible from the concerned communities. He reiterated that UNFPA hoped that national reports could be forthcoming from Governments.

19. The International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 should chart progress and lay down agreed paths for the twenty-first century. The themes to be covered would include population growth; population migration and distribution; population policy and its integration in all sectoral policies; data collection and analysis; the integrity of the family; WID; AIDS; information, education and communication; community development and NGOs; resource commitment and mobilization. Finally, he hoped that the current Conference would provide the opportunity for renewed commitment to effective population policies and programmes as an integral part of the principles and practice of sustainable development in the Africa region.

20. On behalf of the Executive Secretary of ECA, Mr. A. Bahri, Chief of the Population Division welcomed participants and hailed the presence of Namibia which was participating for the first time. He underscored the context within which the Conference was being held, in particular the perception that Africa and its people were both adrift.

21. Such afro-pessimism notwithstanding, the problems of Africa should be analyzed calmly and objectively, placing population issues within the context of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action so as to determine what needed to be done over the current and subsequent decades and to formulate Africa's common position for the International Conference on Population and Sustainable Development scheduled to be held in Cairo in 1994. The theme of the current Conference was Population, Family and Sustainable Development. Without renouncing the idea of the State as an instrument for regulation and order, it was necessary to acknowledge the inherent potential of the family which had not been sufficiently explored. The severity of the economic crisis should be reduced by making sure that the macroeconomic solutions proposed took family strategies into account both in demographic and economic terms.

22. The population problems in Africa were not confined to the family context alone. The demographic impact of the dismantling of apartheid, in particular, the possible scenarios of population movements resulting from the reorganization of civilian life would also need to be kept in mind. Also to be noted was the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, a seminal document which was going to inspire and guide all thinking and research on the continent, including population concepts.

23. He invited participants to formulate conclusions and recommendations on these themes as they related to development. The draft Declaration prepared by the Preparatory Committee made up of African institutions, member States and UNFPA should accordingly form the core of the African position to be submitted to the International Conference of 1994. In conclusion, he expressed appreciation to those governments which had contributed generously to the organization of the meeting, singling out UNFPA, and all observers, African and otherwise, who had come to demonstrate their interest in and support of Africa.

24. On behalf of the Government of Senegal, Mr. Ousmane Diene, Directeur de cabinet of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Finance and Planning, welcomed participants. He indicated that the meeting formed part of the preparations for the International Population Conference to be held in 1994. At Arusha in 1984, the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action for Population and Self-sustaining Development had been adopted. The idea was to integrate population variables in development planning. Indeed, the rapid population growth of the continent (at an annual rate of about 3 per cent) had been hampering the efforts made in the quest for lasting and harmonious development.

25. The objectives of the KPA were far from being attained; 102 out of every 1,000 Africans died in infancy as compared to 52 Latin Americans and 64 South East Asians. Life expectancy was a mere 53 years. Added to that, rapid urbanization was creating, among other problems to be solved, an unwholesome and insecure atmosphere in the towns. Africa's economic performance remained poor and the consequences

of that included spreading poverty, spiralling unemployment, capital flight from debt servicing, deteriorating social services and standards of education which all went to affect domestic capabilities for mastering modern technologies and understanding the problems of population and environment. What was more, less than half of the population had access to safe drinking water and health services.

26. The pressure on the environment (on land, forest, mineral and energy resources) might well break down the ecosystem unless population growth was controlled. The integration of the family dimension in development strategies would guarantee the achievement of sustained and sustainable socio-economic development. The United Nations Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s advocated in the main that speedy progress must be made towards achieving human development objectives before the year 2000.

27. He called on participants to work out an African common position on population and sustainable development to be submitted to the Ministers. He ended by thanking those institutions and countries which had contributed actively to the organization of the Conference and wished participants every success before declaring open the Meeting of Experts.

Election of officers (agenda item 2)

28. The meeting elected the following officers:

Chairman	Senegal
First Vice-Chairman	Kenya
Second Vice-Chairman	Egypt
Rapporteurs	Rwanda
	Namibia

C. AGENDA

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 3)

29. The Meeting of Experts adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action:
   - (a) Population and development strategy and policy;
   - (b) Fertility and family planning;
   - (c) Morbidity and mortality;
   - (d) Urbanization and migration;
   - (e) Changing role of women in the development process;
   - (f) Children and youth;

(g) Population data collection, analysis, training and research;

(h) Population information;

(i) Community involvement and role of private and non-governmental organizations.

5. African family in the context of socio-economic development:

(a) Impact of socio-economic crisis and rapid population growth on the family: current strategies of survival;

(b) Changing role and status of women in the family and in the development process;

(c) Adolescent in the family and in the development process.

6. Strategies for sustainable development:

(a) Economic strategies and policies: constraints and perspectives;

(b) Strategies for development of human resources;

(c) Social strategies in support of population programmes.

7. Emerging population problems and new orientations and strategies:

(a) Deterioration of health status: Factors and consequences;

(b) Constant high level of fertility;

(c) Consequences of population structure;

(d) Environment degradation;

(e) AIDS;

(f) Poverty alleviation.

8. Population policies and programmes in Africa:

(a) A review of assessment of population issues in selected African countries;

(b) Technical and financial assistance to population programmes in Africa: trends and implications.

9. Progress report on the preparatory activities for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

10. Any other business.

11. Round table on the dynamic and structure of the African family organized by the Union for African Population Studies (UAPS).

12. Adoption of the report and recommendations.

13. Closing of the meeting.

D. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

Implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action: Lessons and prospects (agenda item 4)

30. Under this agenda item, the meeting considered document E/ECA/POP/APC.3/92/2 on the Implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population: Lessons and prospects. It recalled that by adopting the KPA, African Governments had resolved to accelerate self-reliant, social and economic development. Before that resolve could be implemented, the region was already engulfed in a serious economic crisis which had resulted in abandoning long-term perspective socio-economic development planning in favour of short-term survival strategies.

31. Subsequently, the Kampala Declaration on Environment and Sustainable Development had been adopted by African Ministers responsible for Environment, Planning and Education in 1989. It stressed that the transition from self-reliant to sustainable development required food self-sufficiency and security, efficient and equitable use of water resources, greater energy self-sufficiency, optimal industrial production, maintenance of species and ecosystems, prevention and reversal of desertification and achieving a balance in the growth rates of population and the economy.

32. Meeting those objectives would naturally raise the standard of living in the region and check its rapid population growth rate. Rural unemployment, rural exodus, urban stress and, ultimately poverty would also be eradicated in the region. All that called for an accelerated implementation of the KPA recommendations.

33. The meeting then reviewed the efforts made and the difficulties met by African Governments in implementing the KPA recommendations addressed to them in the nine broad areas of population and development strategy and policy, fertility and family planning, mortality and morbidity, urbanization and migration, the changing role of women in the development process, children and youth, data collection training and research, population information and community involvement together with the role of private and non-governmental organizations. Suggestions for accelerating the implementation of the recommendations in each of these areas were also examined.

34. In the discussion which ensued, participants reviewed national experiences in implementing the KPA. On population and development strategy and policy, they stressed the need for a better understanding of the activities involved in integrating population factors in development planning, particularly aspects of the conceptual framework and information dissemination. The factors contributing to observed success cases of integration were highlighted. These included political commitment, high literacy rate among both sexes, efficient communication systems; high rate of community involvement, the private sector and non-governmental organizations; effective coordination of programmes; collaboration with international organizations; and, sufficient funding.

35. The experts then reviewed the negative effects of internal conflicts and civil strife on successful integration. They also noted the negative impact of structural adjustment programmes on family stability and stressed the need for specific programmes to foster family welfare. They expressed deep concern about the AIDS pandemic which had aggravated the already high mortality rate in the region, particularly among vulnerable age groups; and stressed the importance of sharing ideas on successful population programmes. They recommended that border barriers should be made more flexible in order to foster population movement. On the role and status of women in development, the meeting stressed that education and training for women were prerequisites for their effective participation in social and economic activities. The importance

of improved data collection/analysis and accelerated training in population and development interrelationship were also emphasized; analysis and use of census data should be given more prominence and articulated in national census projects.

36. Participants drew attention to the fact that abortion was not a method of contraception. They would have wished that the document addressed the issue of reviewing family planning legislation rather than that of reviewing laws on abortion and sterilization.

African family systems in the context of socio-economic development (agenda item 5)

37. Under this agenda item, the meeting noted the increasing inability of families to raise and educate their young in difficult circumstances and the changing and often conflicting roles of women and men as parents and workers. The focus on family and gender roles illustrated the critical linkages at the household level between economic and demographic processes. It also highlighted the importance of making population and development policies and programmes both more family and gender sensitive and more relevant to the economic and demographic aspirations and realities faced by families.

38. Gender inequalities in opportunities and treatment and the refusal to recognize the significance of gender issues were viewed as seriously implicated in the failure of both families and nation States to attain their economic and demographic goals. Thus the point was emphasized that families, which formed the framework for systems of production and reproduction had often been omitted in the consideration of these domains.

39. Participants noted, inter alia, that the family provided a crucial context for looking at population problems and was the critical milieu in which education took place. It was also noted that poverty and inability to cope with the needs of family members led to further health and demographic problems, including sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS. The meeting also called attention to the problems of single parents, female drop-out rates due to pregnancy and street children.

40. An important causal factor leading to parental absence and consequent deprivation of children was noted to be labour migration. The critical importance of paternal responsibility for child maintenance and care was stressed. Specific social policies including legal reforms were needed to safeguard the ability of workers to be responsible parents. In addition, appropriate technology and energy policies as well as legislation were required to combat the dependence of parents on child labour, in the context of small family enterprises and domestic labour on which increasing numbers of the population were coming to depend.

41. Attention was called to population and health programmes in the region which have attached great importance to the role of the family. Participants also stressed the need for recognition of women's economic activities and the need to bring family laws in line with family realities. At the same time, the point was made that, while respecting tradition, those cultural practices which infringed human rights should be abolished.

42. The need for improved multi-level data collection and research on changing family systems was highlighted, including information on intra-family support and domestic decision-making processes, so that family concerns could be fully integrated into population and development policies, plans and programmes.

Strategies for sustainable development (agenda item 6)

43. Under this agenda item, sustainable development was defined as the responsible management and utilization of resources to meet present needs without compromising the needs of future generations. It was noted that as long as a country's development proceeded within the confines of the national carrying capacity

(i.e., the space available for expansion in terms of population and economic growth), it could be said to be sustainable.

44. As a prelude to examining strategies for achieving sustainable development, the meeting (a) reviewed the external and internal causes of the regional economic crisis; (b) outlined the various available regional development frameworks but noted the lack of a comprehensive strategy for implementing their recommendations as well as serious commitment on the part of leaders not to mention bureaucratic inflexibility and inertia and the conditionalities imposed under alternative external policy strategies; and (c) discussed the effects of structural adjustment programmes.

45. Among the strategies noted for ensuring sustainable development in the various countries of the region the key factor was the improvement of the terms of trade. Additionally, (a) economic integration should be fostered to build strong collective bargaining power and to overcome the small-market constraint; (b) a more effective management of the economy and political stability should be ensured; (c) effective national population programmes should be formulated and implemented as integral parts of overall development strategies; (d) funding requirements should be redefined on the basis of the concerns expressed by the people; and, (e) greater involvement of the people should be secured in the implementation of programmes which contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

46. During the discussion, the meeting recommended that countries should adapt the definition of sustainable development as adopted at the UNCED (1992) to foster a commonality of approach. The very idea of sustainability as a development strategy in the region was questioned given the prevailing conditions of social instability, conflicts, wars between and within countries. It was noted that since many countries were also beset with galloping inflation, no development strategy could be sustainable in the absence of stability and peace.

47. Among the essential factors that would help to achieve sustainable development, the meeting suggested (a) the establishment of a peaceful and enabling environment; (b) effective management of the economy under democratic governance; (c) the formulation of national population programmes to be implemented simultaneously with programmes aimed at addressing environmental degradation as well as other social concerns like health and education; (d) the better management of available human and material resources; (e) the institution of greater cooperation between countries having similar problems and characteristics, (f) community involvement at the grass-roots level in the formulation and implementation of programmes; and, (g) the improvement and expansion of infrastructural facilities and national capabilities for formulating and implementing socio-economic development programmes.

48. The meeting also underlined the problem of the deteriorating terms of trade which constitutes a real constraint to development in the region. It also requested the developed countries to consider "reconverting" the heavy debt to foster the development of the social sectors.

49. With regard to the AIDS pandemic for which preventive measures had not been adequately taken in the past, they urged that greater attention should be paid to educating the population about its impact and control.

50. It was stressed that poverty reduction and increasing employment opportunities could significantly further progress towards the goal of sustainable development and that the inclusion of income-generating activities in population and family planning programmes would enhance their success.

Emerging population problems and new orientations and strategies (agenda item 7)

51. Under this agenda item, the meeting considered document E/ECA/POP/ACP.3/92/5. Among the emerging population problems noted were the deterioration in the public health situation; continuing high fertility; population structure and its consequences; environmental degradation; AIDS; and, the problem of poverty reduction.

52. Although it was being increasingly recognized that investment in health care increased the value of human resources, many countries were not in a position to cope with the declining health situation caused by several factors including population pressure. The persistence of high fertility increases Africa's economic difficulties. While the problems of ageing were not presently a cause for major concern, they should not be neglected.

53. The poverty situation in the region is also expected to worsen to the point where the absolute number of poor people would outstrip that of Asia due to the impact of the economic crisis.

54. Turning to the Memorandum addressed by the ECA Executive Secretary to the third African Population Conference, it was indicated that some of the ideas therein complemented the picture in terms of the emerging population issues. It widened the scope of population issues within the broader perspective of the critical situation of Africa and its prospects for sustainable development.

55. The meeting pointed out other emerging population problems including the issue of displaced persons, refugees and migrants, the prevalence of primary sterility in certain regions, the need for health training in order to improve the situation, aging, the disabled, the inadequate research facilities and the need for countries to set their own priorities and strengthen national capabilities for population policies and programmes.

56. With regard to displaced persons, the meeting also noted the need to safeguard the rights of refugees as well as to take action to reduce and prevent conflicts. The meeting recommended that there should be political will to resolve and avoid such problems permanently.

57. Given the fact that development assistance was declining, the meeting also stressed the need to streamline research, improve the sharing of experiences, provide more resources to national centres, ensure that national priorities were set by the countries themselves and pay greater attention to the problems of aged and the disabled.

A review of assessment of population policies in selected African countries [agenda item 8(a)]

58. Under this agenda item, the meeting considered document E/ECA/POP/APC.3/92/6 on an assessment of the implementation of population policies in Tunisia, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya and Mauritius. This assessment, it was stated, was in relation to the attainment of quantified demographic targets contained in the policies. The selected countries covered had pursued policies for 15 years or longer.

59. The meeting examined the factors contributing to the achievement of set targets as well as those that hampered their attainment. Among a number of aspects that the document failed to reflect the meeting noted qualitative objectives which were equally important in population programmes and policies as well as traditional and natural methods of family planning. It was also noted that the population policy development experiences of more countries, especially from sub-Saharan Africa, should have been reviewed.

60. Fertility management programmes were considered important both for the pursuit and for the institution of population policies. This was because couples were free to decide on fertility regulation as

individuals through informed choice. In that regard, governments should inform their people about such rights and should assist them to secure access to information and services in order to help them exercise their options regarding reproduction. However, particular care should be taken to ensure that individuals were not coerced to going along with policies and programmes geared at influencing demographic trends.

61. The meeting underscored the importance of multisectoral approaches to family planning programmes and urged the government ministries, departments, NGOs and the private sector to integrate health, education and family planning programmes and population policies in their various activities. It is crucial, therefore, that resources are made available and allocated to these sectors.

62. The meeting noted the recent progress being made by some countries in their population policies and programmes with respect to lowering population growth and fertility rates through the adoption of family planning and inclusion of IEC programmes; reducing mortality; and increasing life expectancy. It was encouraging that more and more countries were preparing explicit population policies while many others were pursuing programmes leading to such policies. In some countries, however, lack of reliable demographic data made it difficult to formulate relevant policies and programmes. Policies should take into account national sovereignty.

63. Of particular importance in population programmes and policies was the issue of quality of care; this required, among others, that personnel involved in the delivery of programmes should be well trained and instilled with the right attitude. Some health professionals demonstrated attitudes which were inimical to the provision of quality services. The meeting recommended that such attitude should be changed.

64. Against the background of the current economic crisis and consequent structural adjustment programmes (SAPs) which have rendered investment in social sectors extremely difficult, the meeting also stressed the need for governments to invest in such social sectors as health and education which had an impact on accelerating the acceptance and practice of family planning programmes.

65. In view of the constraints imposed by SAPs and the debt burden, the meeting then called for a better global distribution of resources and appealed to donor governments, agencies and organizations to financially assist African countries in their overall development efforts particularly with regard to population and family planning programmes. In this regard, it was noted that, of late, the Eastern European countries were securing more financial assistance and Africa was being forgotten. The meeting launched an appeal for a deeper perception of Africa's potential and for the donor community to provide assistance commensurate with the seriousness of its current situation.

66. It was felt that besides the reduction of fertility levels and population growth rates population policies should also concentrate on other aspects, such as reduction in infant, child and maternal mortality; migration population distribution; programmes on women and youth and resources should be made available for their implementation. Donors were called upon to assist in financing these other population policy aspects in addition to programmes directly concerned with the reduction of fertility and population growth rates.

67. Given the fact that resources were limited, the meeting called on countries to properly coordinate domestic and international assistance at the national level. There was also a need to support common subregional programmes as well as improve the exchange of information for the effective use of limited resources.

United Nations technical and financial assistance to population programmes and related statistical activities in Africa [agenda item 8(b)]

68. The areas of United Nations technical and financial assistance considered included improvement of knowledge of demographic situation in Africa through population data collection and processing; analysis and research; formulation and implementation of population policy and integration of population variables into development planning and improvement of national training programmes in these areas. The technical assistance in population and related statistical activities reviewed was provided by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development with financial assistance of the United Nations Population Fund.

69. UNFPA financial support to data collection, demographic analysis population and development and training has more than tripled since the Mexico Conference from US$ 10.5 million in 1984 to US$ 32 million in 1992. The largest UNFPA financial assistance was provided for training of national personnel in all fields of population at national, regional and interregional levels. Since Mexico, UNFPA assistance to population training programmes in Africa has increased from US$ 3.7 million in 1984 to US$ 13.4 million in 1992.

70. The comparative breakdown of UNFPA budgets for population projects by region between 1989 and 1992 shows that the funding for population training, data collection and population and development programmes in Africa was the highest of all the regions demonstrating the priority given to Africa in financial assistance in these areas. It is expected that this trend may continue in the future with greater support for programmes in population policy and development planning and population analysis and research as well as related human resources development.

71. During the period after the Mexico Conference, there was greater reliance on national expertise to implement the projects especially for data collection and analysis, and training in national institutions. In particular, the United Nations has encouraged the use of national experts for census data collection, analysis and production of reports and organization of dissemination seminars and workshops.

72. In training, efforts have been focused on institutional building within undergraduate and graduate degree programmes in response to the needs in the countries for trained personnel. During the last decade the United Nations has assisted over 50 country training programmes.

73. In the discussion which followed, many participants expressed appreciation of UNFPA financial and UNDESD technical assistance in these areas of population in Africa. It was proposed that a full assessment of technical and financial assistance including assistance from bilateral, multilateral, NGO sources and technical cooperation among African countries should have been provided in the document. Many countries requested more resources for training in population and development, research into population policy formulation and techniques of integrating population variables into development planning. The need to motivate and retain trained personnel was stressed as well as to intensify studies on the family.

74. The need was expressed by some countries for further assistance from UNFPA and other donors to strengthen their institutional capability for population and economic data collection and analysis and to identify new techniques of data collection and processing.

75. Participants also proposed that consideration be given to aspects of assistance that would ensure the sustainability of programme supported by UNFPA and other donors through development of national capability and use of local resources, particularly consultants. The meeting suggested that the assessment of the population assistance would be enriched by making a per capita analysis of aid received by population growth rate and projection of future aid to the region. This, it was felt, would enable the countries to prepare programmes for UNFPA and other donor assistance.

76. Some member States representatives expressed concern at the dwindling trend of bilateral and multilateral assistance to developing countries and its diversion to countries of the former socialist bloc. They also requested that international assistance to middle-income countries which had made substantial progress in population matters should be sustained on a lasting basis in order to enable them to continue with their programmes. Participants were also concerned that the funding policies of certain donors gave priority to the big countries rather than to the small ones which constituted the majority in Africa. They also proposed that the new restructuring of UNFPA technical assiistance should be reviewed to take language barriers into account so as to ensure the continuity of programmes supported by UNFPA and other donors.

77. The meeting noted the report of the African NGOs Forum on Population held on 30 November and 1 December 1992, in Dakar. It also noted the Forum's recommendations to enhance the role of national NGOs in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of population/family planning policies and programmes as well as its scheduled meeting in 1993 prior to the International Conference on Population and Development.

Progress report on the preparatory activities for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994 (agenda item 9)

78. The document on this agenda item was introduced by a representative of UNFPA, the Executive Coordinator of ICPD. The meeting updated the information contained in the document and noted that ECOSOC had decided that the Conference should address six specific groups of issues requiring the highest attention as listed in the document.

79. The preparatory process comprised three sessions of the preparatory committee (of which one had already been held), six expert group meetings (five of which had already been held), five regional population conferences (the remaining three would take place between March and May 1993) and six thematic round table meetings (one of which had already taken place).

80. The results of inquiries and activities now underway were stressed including the Review and Appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action, the Seventh Population Enquiry among member States, the monitoring of population trends and of multilateral population programmes which would serve as major inputs for the Conference.

81. Regarding national activities for the Conference, the meeting indicated that governments had been invited to establish national committees, which would have, among their principal tasks, the preparation of national reports on their demographic situation, population policies and programmes. It was also pointed out that UNFPA would provide technical and financial assistance to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in producing their reports. Progress was also reported with regard to inter-agency coordination activities and activities aimed at eliciting the participation of non-governmental organizations in the Conference.

82. The progress made in national preparations were presented. In response to concerns that the participation of developing countries in the Conference and its preparatory process would be hampered by financial constraints, it was pointed out that the Secretary-General of the Conference had established a voluntary trust fund to address this problem, and it was hoped that contributions received for this fund would help to defray travel costs of developing countries' participation not only at the Conference itself, but also at the sessions of the preparatory committee.

Any other business (agenda item 10)

83. In answering to queries raised by some participants, a representative of the secretariat explained the nature and use of the documents which member States were asked to prepare and submit to ECA. It was made clear that the country questionnaires which were sent out earlier on were meant to solicit answers in aid of the evaluation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action. The national reports which focused on socio-economic and demographic situation and developments would be put together by the secretariat in a volume to be published after the Conference. It was then explained that the secretariat did not ask for country statements to be prepared but rather participants wishing to speak at the ministerial meeting should register in advance.

84. It was clear from the debate that there were communication problems in the transmission of Conference documents. A number of participants indicated that they did not receive the request to write and submit national reports. ECA was therefore asked and it agreed to look into its document distribution modalities to ensure that they reach those charged with the responsibility for dealing with the issues concerned in good time.

85. The right of observers to participate in the deliberations of the drafting committee of the Conference was also queried. It was made clear that for the preparation of political or legislative instruments, only member States should participate.

Round Table on the dynamics and structure of the African family (agenda item 11)

86. On 10 December, the Union of African Population Studies (UAPS) organized a Round Table on the dynamics and structure of the African family. The participants attended in their individual capacities as experts. A report on this will be issued separately.

Adoption of the report and recommendations (agenda item 12)

87. The meeting considered the draft report which was adopted with a number of amendments.

Closing of the meeting (agenda item 13)

88. In declaring the meeting closed, the Chairman thanked all participants for their valuable contribution.

Annex II

DRAFT DAKAR/NGOR DECLARATION ON POPULATION, FAMILY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(As adopted by the third African Population Conference)

PREAMBLE

1. We, the Governments of African countries represented by our Ministers responsible for population matters at the third African Population Conference which met in Dakar, Senegal from 7 to 12 December 1992 on the theme "Population, family and sustainable development" and have assessed the demographic situation and future trends in the region. In preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development to be held in Cairo in 1994, we have also assessed the achievements, constraints and implications of population policies; the impact of the economic crisis and structural adjustment programmes on family survival strategies and on the ability of African Governments to make satisfactory progress in population policy formulation and implementation.

2. We have reviewed the lessons and prospects of implementing the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action which, inter alia, was aimed at accelerating self-reliant, social and economic development for the well-being of African peoples. We reaffirm that the KPA remains a valid framework for the development of the region. We have taken note of the Amsterdam Declaration on Better Life for Future Generations, United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/216 on population and development, the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF), Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the deliberations of the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighteenth meeting as well as preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

3. We are conscious of the social, economic and political difficulties faced by most African countries since the early 1980s, the widening North-South gap, the insufficiency of available resources for implementing national population programmes and the unfavourable outlook of the world economy.

4. We assert the prime responsibility of African Governments to improve the quality of life of the African peoples and redress their economic and social situation. We are concerned about the persistent high population growth rate and associated high fertility levels, high infant, child and maternal mortality levels, high morbidity, incidence of AIDS, significant imbalance in the geographic distribution of the population in the region, inadequate policies for the improvement of the legal status of women in the family, its integration into the development process, ineffective programmes for children and young people, problems of refugees and displaced persons, inadequate information systems and low level of data utilization. We recognize the need for an increased role of the public and private sectors as well as non-governmental organizations in population and integrated development programmes.

5. We are mindful of the fact that the family is the basic unit in society and, as such, needs and is entitled to support and protection by society and the state in order to play its role in development.

6. We have further noted that despite the increased number of explicit population policies formulated, the implementation rate of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action for African Population and Self-reliant Development (KPA) remains low.

7. We have also noted that in spite of the efforts made by African Governments to reduce mortality, morbidity and infant mortality to the extent that the regional life expectancy at birth has risen from 49 years in 1984 to 51 years in 1992, fertility and mortality levels remain high in most countries. We consider that

u.is situation is worsened by rural-urban drift and that there are also problems with empowering women to play an effective role in development, in implementing programmes designed to promote children and young people and in particular to remove the causes of unequal treatment of young girls, providing adequate data and information for the formulation of population policies; broadening and deepening the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and putting in place needed national focal points to assist in the integration of population factors in the development planning process.

8. We recognize that population matters are an integral part of the socio-economic development process and as such should be accorded high priority in the allocation of financial resources.

SECTION I

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

Now, whereas

(a) African countries affirm their solidarity in dealing with population problems and undertake to formulate population policies respecting the sovereign rights of each country along with the freedom, dignity and intrinsic values of their peoples and taking into account the relevant moral and cultural factors, and bear responsibility for reaffirming the rights and obligations of individuals and couples;

(b) The successful pursuit of any population policy requires the institution of a stable political and social environment and calls for the elimination of all forms of extremism that breed conflict and instability;

(c) The family, as an essential component of the economic and social fabric, requires the pursuit of appropriate strategies, adapted to family services, which should, themselves, form an integral part of population and development policies which address the needs of all members, especially adolescents;

(d) In recognition of the critical roles of women in family formation and their major contribution to social economic development, rights, status and needs of women, particularly in the areas of education, employment, and health care services should be explicit in all national development planning;

(e) The countries and peoples of Africa have experienced prolonged periods of economic and social hardships since adoption of the KPA in 1984, stemming from natural and man-made causes such as: rising poverty levels, problems of refugees and displaced persons, internal and international migration, environmental deterioration, natural disasters, growing debt burdens, declining economic trade opportunities, HIV/AIDS and food shortages;

(f) The formulation and implementation of comprehensive population policies reflecting the realities of each country should be accelerated simultaneously with sustained economic growth to assure the achievement of long-term objectives of food security, and sustainable development;

(g) The provision of training and research (in population and development) are essential ingredients to effective integration of population factors in development planning;

(h) The success of national and regional efforts in the field of population and development depends to a large extent on a conducive, supportive international economic environment.

We hereby declare that:

A. African Governments should, in the matters of:

1. Population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development

(a) Integrate population policies and programmes in development strategies, focusing on strengthening social sectors with a view to influencing human development and work towards the solution of population problems by setting quantified national objectives for the reduction of population growth with a view to bringing down the regional natural growth rate from 3.0 to 2.5 per cent by the year 2000 and 2 per cent by the year 2010;

(b) Implement measures to tackle the underlying causes of environmental degradation such as poverty, focusing on environmentally sound and appropriate technologies; enhance the quality of the environment by reversing deforestation and soil erosion, checking the spread of deserts and adopting priority programmes aimed at management of water resources, with a view to reducing the impact of recurrent droughts and the resultant food shortages;

(c) Place greater emphasis on such matters as food security, marketing services, appropriate agricultural mechanization, research and extension services, more efficient use of land and farming systems, livestock development and assistance programmes to small farmers;

(d) Strengthen industrial strategies at the country level so as to encourage economic growth;

(e) Exchange experiences in population policy and programme formulation and strengthen national and subnational institutions in charge of their implementation.

2. Family

(a) Take due account of the rights and responsibilities of all family members and ensure that measures that protect the family from socio-economic distress and disintegration are taken into account in accordance with family well-being and health requirements, bearing in mind the survival strategies designed by the families themselves. Also provide couples and individuals with the facilities and resources for deciding the size of their families;

(b) Integrate family concerns in all development plans, policies and programmes and encourage analytical studies on demographic processes within the family cycle so as to better identify the determinants of small family size.

3. Fertility and family planning

(a) Create a conducive socio-economic climate and sustained political will for the pursuit of such effective fertility policies as make for: (i) setting fertility and family planning (FP) targets for all people of reproductive age and takes measures to reduce infertility where needed; (ii) implementing legal measures to improve the status of women and their reproductive health; (iii) establishing strong maternal and child health (MCH) programmes; (iv) ensuring strong management and close collaboration between private and public sectors and communities in the implementation of their MCH and national FP programmes; (v) decentralizing health care delivery systems for urban and rural areas; (vi) strengthening information, education and communication (IEC) in MCH and FP programmes; (vii) strengthening family institutions; (viii) addressing unmet family planning needs of adolescents and others; and (ix) promoting of the education of men and women on joint responsible parenthood;

(b) Ensure the availability and promote the use of all tested available contraceptive and fertility regulation methods, including traditional and natural family planning methods ensuring choice of methods with a view to doubling the regional contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) from about 10 to about 20 per cent by the year 2000 and 40 per cent by the year 2010;

(c) Study the possibility of production of contraceptives within the region;

(d) Promote national research in human reproduction and increase capabilities through collaboration with the WHO programme of research, development and training in human reproduction (RDTHR) and other internationally recognized research organizations.

4. Mortality, morbidity and AIDS

(a) Give priority to combating infant, child and maternal morbidity and mortality by giving special attention to primary health care programmes as integral parts of their preventive health policies, such as health education in school curricula at all levels and non-conventional education; enacting legislation to promote clean environment in rural and urban areas; launching national campaigns to increase availability of safe water and sanitation; increasing support to nutrition programmes and giving priority to vulnerable groups for food accessibility in areas of shortage;

(b) Establish and strengthen programmes to combat the spread of AIDS and health problems as part of the overall health programmes with special focus being given to high-risk groups;

(c) Aim, by the year 2000, for the region as a whole, at a life expectancy at birth of at least 55 years, an infant mortality rate of less than 50 per 1000 live births, childhood mortality rate of 70 or less. Develop and implement programmes aimed at reducing maternal mortality by at least 50 per cent from 1990 level by the year 2000. Such programmes should include quality family planning services and studies in order to reduce the increasing problem of unsafe abortion, estimated to cause 30-50 per cent of maternal mortality in parts of Africa;

(d) Implement health programmes such as the African Health Development Framework (AHDF) which was adopted by member States of WHO/Africa region in 1985.

5. Urbanization, migration and physical planning

(a) Address the urbanization and migration issues from a comprehensive integrated perspective taking into account the underlying causes and impact whether of demographic, social, economic nature, place greater emphasis on regional development planning to achieve, among the regions of the individual countries, a more equitable distribution of all development efforts, as well as a better distribution of their population; improve the management of cities and urban areas; intensify rural development programmes in order to lessen the pressure to out-migrate to the cities; and, make an assessment of urban policies, taking account of the relative role of net migration and natural increase in urban population growth;

(b) Considering the importance of migratory flows of the African population within Africa and between Africa and other continents, a common position should be adopted by the countries concerned within the framework of international conventions regarding the adoption of appropriate measures to protect people's rights and guarantee their security.

6. Refugees and displaced persons

(a) Exert every effort to tackle the acute problems of refugees and displaced persons by setting up an integrated plan capable of dealing with the root causes and foresee solutions for the immediate, medium and long terms;

(b) Take appropriate measures to protect and assist refugees in terms of paragraph 43 of the KPA[1];

(c) Ensure that priority is given in policy making to the elimination of the underlying causes of the refugee situation through negotiation, conflict resolution, democratization, and respect for human rights and that refugees and returnees are included in population-oriented development plans and that the policy of voluntary repatriation should be integrated in development plans;

(d) Ensure that adequate services are provided for refugee and displaced persons as they enter the country of asylum and at the point of their voluntary repatriation with the support of the international community.

7. Women in development

(a) Adopt a national policy on improving the role, status and participation of women, taking into account main streaming as a means of incorporating women's programmes into all aspects of development, and monitor its implementation at the highest government level in accordance with the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The role of African Women in Development during the 1990s and Beyond. Take necessary steps to eliminate discrimination against women, as well as certain traditional and cultural practices and religious extremism which inhibit their effective advancement and participation in development;

(b) Institute and strengthen programmes for reforming the educational system and vocational training with a view to providing basic education to all those at school age with particular emphasis on the education of girls;

(c) Establish programmes and

(i) Pass legislation to enhance the legal status of women within the family and the community with a view to enabling women to contribute more directly in decision making, and in the formulation of strategies aimed at upholding family values, providing support to family members and contributing to stability in society;

(ii) Formulate national policies and initiate measures aimed at ensuring greater participation and assumption of responsibilities by men in the maintenance and nurturing of their families and enacting national legislation that will emphasize the complementary and equal partnership roles that men and women have to play in development;

(iii) Recognize the participation of women in all production sectors particularly in agriculture and provide for them appropriate technology to reduce their work load and maximize their efficiency and effectiveness and better access to credit facilities and farm inputs with a view to enhancing their economic independence and improving the quality of life.

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[1] Governments should take appropriate measures to protect and assist international migrants and refugees and safeguard their property and respect their culture.

8. Children

Ratify the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child adopted by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in 1990, implement the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit on Children and conclusions and recommendations of the OAU International Conference on assistance to the African Child.

9. Youth

(a) Ensure that population programmes provide education, counselling and other support services for young people and promote their participation in all development activities;

(b) Formulate national policies aimed at protecting the youth from any form of abuse, economic exploitation, especially child labour, as well as other policies and programmes aimed at curbing drug abuse and alcoholism;

(c) Adopt a comprehensive strategy on youth encompassing (i) the development and implementation of policies for young people, as well as educational, cultural and vocational training programmes; (ii) strengthening MCH and FP services; (iii) improving the role and status and participation of youth in society; (iv) providing employment opportunities for young people; and (v) involving young people in the activities of youth-related non-governmental organizations.

10. Data collection and analysis, information dissemination, training and research

(a) Make determined and sustained efforts to improve population and demographic data, including the establishment of civil registration and vital statistic systems, ensuring the cost effectiveness of censuses without necessarily compromising data quality and encouraging inter-censal socio-demographic sample surveys to be undertaken;

(b) Carry out qualitative studies to assess the impact of population programmes on the family;

(c) Ensure that training and research in population and development in African universities and research institutes are coordinated and the findings together with their implications effectively disseminated and brought to the attention of all concerned;

(d) Strengthen regional institutes and enhance cooperation among African countries in the area of training, research and data collection;

(e) Carry out studies on the complex inter-relationships between population, environment and sustainable development in order to assist African Governments to formulate and implement relevant policies;

(f) Put in place and strengthen national focal points for collating and disseminating population and development information on the basis of gender together with the provision of adequate resources.

11. Information, education and communication (IEC)

(a) Develop IEC programmes that involve recipients as partners and are research based (including base-line studies), specifically targeted, culturally appropriate, rooted in local languages as far as possible and linked with follow-up activities including the delivery of family planning services;

(b) Implement strong IEC strategies and follow-up studies, ensure greater involvement of and access to the mass media in IEC, undertake follow-up studies on constraints to African media organizations; and train managers and professionals in the interpretation and use of population information.

B. Private and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should:

(a) Promote community participation and involve communities in programme planning, implementation and financing; enhance collaboration and coordination with multilateral and bilateral organizations, other organizations and government agencies;

(b) Be strengthened and considered full partners by governments in the implementation of population programmes and in contributing towards the formulation of related policies. They should also be involved in large-scale replication of successful innovative pilot programmes;

(c) Promote popular participation in population-related issues including environmental protection, attitudinal change, health and education.

C. The subregional and regional groupings should:

(a) Play their role in population-related matters by supporting policies that ease, inter alia, population movements particularly of women, and movement of goods, through flexible migration laws facilitating the voluntary redistribution of population and amelioration of economic conditions through intraregional trade;

(b) Promote technical cooperation including the implementation of joint subregional programmes in the field of research, training and environmental protection.

D. ECA, UNFPA, the World Bank and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system as well as such regional organizations as OAU and ADB should:

Undertake all possible measures to implement, within their respective mandates, the recommendations of this Conference, including, where appropriate, joint activities.

E. The international community should:

(a) Continue to increase its assistance to African countries in the fields of population and development, long-term perspective development planning including those related to refugees and returnees, training and research; strengthen and expand support to all types and levels of training (in population and development) and help to strengthen the institution-building capacity of African countries; and establish technical structures to support programmes taking into account problems related to liaison and communication;

(b) Consider conversion of African debt into grants to be used in financing social programmes including population activities;

(c) Strengthen South-South cooperation with regard to training, exchange of information, sharing of experiences, know-how, and technical expertise.

SECTION II

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

1. In this endeavour, we strongly appeal to the African Governments to ensure that adequate planning and budget appropriations are devoted to national population and socio-economic development programmes that further their objectives and make selective use of fees and other forms of cost recovery, cost sharing and accessing local resources of philanthropy to generate domestic resources to support service delivery programmes and the provision of contraceptives, as well as traditional fertility regulation and natural family planning methods.

2. We also appeal to donors to respond positively and increasingly to requests for population assistance and activities and improve their coordination of population assistance with other bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure that population needs and requirements of African countries are properly addressed out of the 4 per cent target of official development assistance (ODA) to be devoted to population programmes to achieve the goals of the Amsterdam Declaration.

3. We appeal to UNFPA to consider Africa as a priority region and accordingly increase the resources allocated to the development of population policies and programmes.

SECTION III

FOLLOW-UP AND IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

1. In adopting this Declaration, we, the African Governments participating in the third African Population Conference, hereby express our full commitment to implement the aforesaid recommendations and, in this context, urge all member States and all concerned institutions to establish appropriate joint follow-up and evaluation mechanisms.

2. Considering the importance of a follow-up mechanism for the implementation of this Declaration, we recommend that the ECA regional multidisciplinary expertise be reinforced to play its role in the monitoring and evaluation of its implementation.

3. We express our profound appreciation to the Government and the people of Senegal, especially His Excellency Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, Chairman both of the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, who has consistently been at the forefront of economic cooperation among African countries and North-South cooperation. We are most grateful for having had the occasion to hold this historic meeting of our Conference in this beautiful city of Dakar under the most conducive atmosphere of cordiality and warm hospitality.

Annex III

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON POPULATION, FAMILY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The third African Population Conference,

Recalling resolution 506 (XIX) of the ECA Conference of Ministers endorsing the Kilimanjaro Progamme of Action for African Population and Self-Reliant Development,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/94 of 26 July 1989 on support for African countries in the field of population,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/91 of 26 July 1989 on the convening of an international meeting on population in 1994 which requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure, among other things, that the regional commissions make a substantive contribution to the international meeting on population,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/93 of 26 July 1991 which decided that the meeting should be called the ICPD and which invited regional commissions to convene conferences to review regional population policies and programmes and to propose future action as part of their contribution to the preparations for the 1994 Conference to be held in Cairo, from 5 to 13 September,

Recognizing the interrelationship between population and development as stated in General Assembly resolution 45/199 containing the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, resolution 45/206 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries during the 1990s and resolution 45/216 on population and development, all of 21 December 1990,

Taking note of the report of the third African Population Conference held in Dakar, Senegal, from 7 to 12 December 1992,

Reaffirming its commitment to the recommendations spelled out in the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action,

1. Approves the Dakar/Ngor Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development;

2. Requests African Governments to use the Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development in all preparatory activities and ensure that their delegations to the International Conference on Population and Development and to future United Nations Population Commission meetings use it as a reference document to ensure adequate consideration of the priority interests of Africa in population activities;

3. Invites the Executive Secretary to take appropriate steps to ensure that the principles and objectives of the Declaration as well as the recommendations contained therein are incorporated in the work programme and priorities of the Commission and to establish a follow-up Committee of member States in cooperation with OAU/ADB and UNFPA;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development to provide the necessary resources to ensure the participation of African Governments to the Conference;

/...

5. Calls upon all organizations in the United Nations system, the Organization of African Unity, the African Development Bank, intergovernmental, subregional, interregional and national organizations involved in population activities in the region to cooperate with African Governments to implement the Declaration;

6. Requests donor countries and agencies to increase the resources they provide to the United Nations Population Fund for its work in Africa.